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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ROUTING SLIP

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
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Remarks

Executive Secretary

3/1/84

Date

3637 (10-81)

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United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

ER
84-1076

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
with ~~SECRET~~ ATTACHMENT

February 28, 1984

Interagency Group No. 44

TO:

OVP	-	Mr. Donald P. Gregg
NSC	-	Mr. Robert Kimmitt
ACDA	-	Mr. William Staples
CIA	-	[redacted]
Defense	-	Col. John Stanford
JCS	-	Cmdr. Timothy Hartung
UNA	-	Ambassador Harvey Feldman

25X1

SUBJECT: Interagency Group Meeting on the US Role in the UN Ad Hoc Committee (AHC) on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace, Thursday, March 1, at 11:00 a.m.

In order to establish a USG position on future participation in the Ad Hoc Committee on IOZP, the Department of State will convene an Interagency Group on Thursday, March 1, at 11:00 in Room 1207. This IG will be chaired by Ambassador Roger Kirk, Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of International Organization Affairs.

The attached paper should serve as the focus for discussion. Because the AHC is scheduled to resume on March 12, the USG must establish a position as soon as possible.

Please inform Alexander Liebowitz (tel. 632-0512), Bureau of International Affairs, who will represent your agency at the March 1 IG.

Corey

Charles Hill
Executive Secretary

Attachment:

Paper on US participation in the AHC on the Indian Ocean Zone of Peace

DCI EXEC REG

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DECL: OADR

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SECRET

SUBJECT: Future USG Role in UN Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether the USG should remain in the Ad Hoc Committee (AHC) on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (IOZP).

ESSENTIAL FACTORS

In 1971 the nonaligned called for an IOZP Conference to seek removal of "great power" forces from the Indian Ocean. After nine years of non-participation, the USG in 1980 joined the 47-nation AHC to (1) work more effectively against convening an IOZP conference and (2) focus world attention on the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan as a major threat to the region. We relied on the rule of consensus to protect our interests in the AHC, recognizing that we could leave if consensus were broken. The USG has never favored attending an IOZP Conference. We decided in 1980 to protect our interests with a "yes, but" rather than a "no" approach. This posture, still current, pays dividends in the UN context.

The President's 1981 reaffirmation of our IOZP policy (Tab A) allowed continued USG participation in the AHC but ruled out any move that could imply participation in an IOZP Conference. The 1982 modification of that policy (Tab B) allowed us to express willingness in principle to attend an IOZP Conference if two prior conditions were met: (1) agreement on IOZP principles acceptable to us, and (2) Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan. The 1981 and 1982 policies are substantively the same. In the AHC, we have consistently worked to focus on Soviet occupation of Afghanistan as a threat to regional security, and to insist on consensus. UN-speak terms for these objectives are, respectively, "substantive issues" and "prior harmonization of views".

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